



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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WSDA to hold public hearings on proposed rule for chicken producers

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Agriculture has scheduled public hearings on a proposed rule requiring producers who slaughter and sell no more than 1,000 chickens from their farms to get a special temporary permit.

The rule was drafted at the direction of the Washington Legislature. It covers the special permit application requirements, cooling procedures, sanitary facilities, equipment and utensils, water source, and waste and rinse water disposal.

Public hearings on the proposed rule are scheduled for:

- 11 a.m., March 23 at the Cooperative Extension Office in the Skagit County Courthouse, 700 S. Second St., Mount Vernon.
- 2:30 p.m., March 24 in Room E in the Spokane County Extension Education Center, Room E, 222 N. Havana, Spokane.
- 11 a.m., March 25 in the county commissioner's hearing room in the Lewis County Old Court House, 351 NW North St., Chehalis.

Written testimony can also be sent electronically, by mail or by fax to George Huffman, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504, FAX: (360)902-2092 or e-mail: ghuffman@agr.wa.gov.

The tentative adoption date of the proposed rule is April 5, with a tentative effective date of May 6.

More information and a copy of the proposed rule are available on the department's web site at www.agr.wa.gov. Click on "Food: Animals," then "Proposed Chicken Slaughter Rule" under Hot Topics.

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